



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RB 6526, AN ACT CONCERNING TOXICS  
DISCLOSURE AND INNOVATION FOR HEALTHY CHILDREN BY JOHN P.  
MURPHY ON BEHALF OF THE CONNECTICUT CITIZEN ACTION GROUP  
AND INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
LOCAL 1228 – MARCH 5, 2013**

Good afternoon, Senators Bartolomeo and Linares; Representatives Urban and Betts; members of the committee. My name is John Murphy and I am here to testify on behalf of over 20,000 member families of the Connecticut Citizen Action Group and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1228 in favor of RB 6526, An Act Concerning Toxics Disclosure and Innovation for Healthy Children.

CCAG is concerned about the health of Connecticut citizens and supports common-sense legislation that reduces exposure to harmful chemicals. We are aware of the growing body of research that links exposure to toxic chemicals in many consumer products with serious diseases. The presence of harmful chemicals in children's products is particularly egregious, exposing manufacturers, parents and children.

CCAG strongly supports RB 6526. RB 6526 is a reasonable and common-sense approach to addressing the growing body of scientific research linking exposure to toxic chemicals with the rising incidence of many serious diseases including childhood brain cancer and leukemia, reproductive disorders, autism and other learning and behavioral disorders, insulin-resistance, diabetes and many adult cancers. Chemical exposure has been linked to 10-35% of asthma cases, 2-10% of certain cancers and 5-20% of neurological problems.<sup>1</sup>

This bill sets up a framework for the state to identify chemicals of concern to children, much like what has been done in the European Union, California, Washington and Maine. It also sets up a mechanism for the state to collaborate with the regional, independent Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse as well as our own academic green chemistry research institutions. This is good for innovation and jobs.

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<sup>1</sup> "The Economic Benefits of a Green Chemical Industry in the United States, p. 4, available at [www.bluegreenalliance.org](http://www.bluegreenalliance.org)